

NEW YORK STATE OPTOMETRIC EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

This award is given to an individual, preferably an optometrist or optometric educator who has made an outstanding contribution to the profession in the fields of research, education and academic distinction.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. The nominee must be an NYSOA member in good standing, and/or
2. The nominee must be on the faculty or staff of an accredited school or college of optometry, and/or
3. The nominee must be affiliated with an accredited institution of higher learning.

CRITERIA USED TO JUDGE NOMINEES

1. Leadership roles in the field of optometric education.
2. Authorship/publication of clinical research leading to the advancement of optometric education or clinical patient care.
3. Involvement with undergraduate education in a fashion that nurtures interest in optometry as a career.

Nominations should be accompanied by a statement addressing the categories presented in the eligibility criteria. Not every category is applicable to every nominee. Categories that are not applicable may be skipped. Specific information should be included in the statement to support the nominee's qualifications. The statement should explain the nature of the nominee's contribution based on their optometric career to date, not just the accomplishments of the past year. Supplemental information (e.g. curricula vitae, letters of recommendations, copies of newspaper/journal articles) may accompany the nomination. The nomination statement may not exceed 2,000 words and should be concise, clear and complete.

Past Recipients

1970s – 1990s

The 1970 winner was the late Dr. Frederick W. Brock. The 1971 winner was the late William Feinbloom. In 1972, we had two winners, Dr. William Ludlam and Dr. Mitchell Silbert. The 1973 winners were Dr. Nathan Flax and Dr. J. Baxter Swartwout. In 1974, the award was presented to Dr. Irving Shapiro; in 1975, to Dr. Myron N. Weinstein; in 1976, to the late Dr. Ralph Tocher; in 1977, to Dr. Henry A. Knoll; in 1978, to Dr. Elliott Forrest; in 1979, to Dr. Allen H. Cohen; in 1980, to Dr. Martin Birnbaum; in 1981, to Dr. Maurice Poster; and in 1982, to Dr. Jerome Sherman. In 1983 we had four award winners: Dr. Allen Cohen, Dr. Steven Lieberman, Dr. Michael Ritty and Mr. Mark Stolzberg. In 1985, the award was presented to Dr. Irwin Suchoff; in 1987, to Dr. Robert Bannon; in 1988, to Dr. Norman Weiss; in 1989, to Mrs. Peg Lewis; in 1990, to Dr. Kenneth Ciuffreda; in 1991, to Dr. Harold Solan; in 1992, to Dr. Albert H. Shapiro; in 1993, to Mark Rosenfeld, Ph.D.; in 1994, to Dr. Philip Kruger; in 1995, to the New York Academy of Optometry; and in 1996 the award was

presented to Dr. Stephen Solomon. In 1997, the award went to Dr. J. James Thimons. In 1998, the award went to Dr. Siret Janus. Jay Cohen, O.D. received the award in 1999.

2000s

2000: M. Cristina Leske, MD, MPH

2001: Rafael Urquidi, PhD

2002: Mort Soroka, PhD

2003: Neera Kapoor, OD, MS, FAAO

2004: Dr. Michael Heiberger, Dr. Richard Madonna, and Dr. Leon Nehmad

2005: William Swanson, PhD

2007: Scott Richter, OD

2008: Dr. Murray Fingeret

2009: Dr. Jeffrey S. Cooper

2010s

2010: Michael DePaolis, OD

2011: Rochelle Mozlin, OD

2012: Ida Chung, OD

2013: Joan Portello, OD, MPH, MS, FAAO

2014: David Krumholz, OD

2015: Steven Schwartz, OD, PhD

2016: Scott Richter, OD

2017: Julia Appel, OD, FAAO

2018: Diane T. Adamczyk, OD, FAAO

